

# Vermillion Township Regular Meeting

## March 16, 2021

### Opening

Supervisor Larry Ring opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:29 p.m. In attendance were:

Supervisor Larry Ring  
Supervisor Bruce Lohmann  
Clerk Judy Sloan  
Treasurer Nick Rueger  
Deputy Clerk Cynthia Ladzun  
Attorney Dan Fluegel

### Reorganization for 2021:

Clerk Sloan swears in Cynthia Ladzun as Clerk.

Clerk Ladzun swears in Nick Rueger as Treasurer.

Clerk Ladzun swears in Audrey Felty as Supervisor.

Board Structure and Fees are as follows:

Motion by Lohmann to nominate Ring as Chairman. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Motion by Lohmann to nominate Felty as Vice-Chairman. Seconded by Ring. Motion carried.

Motion by Lohmann to nominate Lohmann as Weed Inspector. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Motion by Ring to nominate Lohmann as Fire Representative. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Motion by Ring to nominate Felty as Watershed Representative. Seconded by Lohmann. Motion carried.

Motion by Lohmann to set Chairperson compensation at \$125.00 per meeting and \$15.00 per hour for work outside. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Motion by Lohmann to set Supervisor compensation at \$100.00 per meeting and \$15.00 per hour for work outside. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Motion by Ring to set Treasurer compensation at \$100.00 per meeting and \$15.00 per hour for work outside. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Motion by Ring to set Deputy-Treasurer compensation at \$100.00 per meeting and \$15.00 per hour for work outside. Seconded by Lohmann. Motion carried.

Motion by Lohmann to set Clerk compensation at \$150.00 per meeting and \$35.00 per hour for work outside. Seconded by Ring. Motion carried.

Motion by Ring to set Deputy-Clerk compensation at \$150.00 per meeting and \$35.00 per hour for work outside. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Motion by Felty to set Head Election Judge compensation at \$35.00 per hour. Seconded by Lohmann. Motion carried.

Motion by Felty to set Election Judges compensation at \$20.00 per hour. Seconded by Lohmann. Motion carried.

Motion by Ring to set Moderator compensation at \$20.00 per hour. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Motion by Felty to set Fire Warden compensation at \$10.00 per permit. Seconded by Lohmann. Motion carried.

Motion by Lohmann to adopt the 2021 Schedule of Fees and Evaluation tables with corrections noted. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Clerk requests signature for Agreement & Authorization for access to the online PERA system. Request granted and Supervisor Felty signed.

Clerk requests to remove and add board members to the MBA account per the election results. Request granted by Ring, Lohmann and Felty.

Motion by Lohmann to use the official newspaper of the township as the Dakota County Tribune and the second newspaper as the Hastings Journal. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Motion by Felty to keep the Vermillion State Bank as the official bank for the township. Seconded by Lohmann. Motion carried.

Clerk Ladzun read the minutes from the February 16, 2021 regular meeting. A motion was made by Lohmann to accept the minutes as read. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Clerk Ladzun read the minutes from the March 2, 2021 Board of Audit meeting. A motion was made by Felty to accept the minutes as read. Seconded by Lohmann. Motion carried.

Treasurer Rueger distributed and verbally summarized the Treasurer's Report.

Motion was made by Lohmann for payment on outstanding claims on the treasurer's report. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Lohmann to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

## **Permits**

Adam Girgen attended the meeting to discuss possible buildable sites left on the Girgen Parcel. It was noted that the North and South Parcel each have a buildable lot remaining and could be clustered.

Motion was made by Lohmann to have Attorney Dan Fluegel write a detailed letter to Adam Girgen stating where the buildable lots remain on the Girgen parcel. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Terry Sieben attended the meeting to discuss a possible residential home building permit and acceptance for the setbacks and permits to build two agricultural sheds. It was noted that both parcels have been closed on and the deeds for the land and the transfer of ownership of the property from Groth to Sieben have been completed and recorded with the county.

Motion was made by Lohmann to authorize a residential home building permit for 6960 170<sup>th</sup> Street East conditional upon proof from the county on the transfer of the land ownership from Groth to Sieben. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Shed One – Sieben plans to use this shed for agricultural purposes only and will not use this shed for any commercial or business purpose.

Motion was made by Lohmann to authorize an agricultural shed permit for Shed One located at 6960 170<sup>th</sup> Street East. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Shed Two - Sieben plans to use this shed for agricultural purposes only and will not use this shed for any commercial or business purpose.

Motion was made by Lohmann to authorize an agricultural shed permit for Shed Two located at 6960 170<sup>th</sup> Street East. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

Brad Thatcher from Thatcher Pools attended the meeting to discuss the possible building permit for an in-ground swimming pool for Eric Timm.

Motion was made by Lohmann to authorize a building permit to be issued for an in-ground swimming pool located at 21749 Inga Avenue. Seconded by Ring. Motion carried.

Troy Roff attended the meeting to discuss the possible building permit for an in-ground swimming pool.

Motion was made by Lohmann to authorize a building permit to be issued for an in-ground swimming pool located at 5621 200<sup>th</sup> Street East. Seconded by Felty. Motion carried.

## **New Business**

Jeremy Heidebrink attended the meeting to discuss a medical gas business that he plans on operating out of his home. No employees, transportation in/out, drop shipments or signage will be placed outside of the home. It appears that since all operations will be done within the confines of the home no further action would need to be taken by the homeowner or the township at this time.

The Yearly Cash Basis Audit is due to the State Auditor by March 31, 2021. This would be quite difficult to complete due to the fact that the township laptop is still in the possession of the FBI. Clerk Ladzun will reach out to the State Auditor and/or Lewis Kisch to request an extension until we are able to receive possession of the laptop again.

Interchange Project located at Hwy 66 & US 52 – This project is in the very beginning stages; however, Doug Abere with the Dakota County Transportation Department is looking for a representative from the township to attend the first meeting regarding this project on April 6, 2021. Chairman Ring agreed that he will attend this meeting and will reach out to Doug to let him know.

Discussion was made regarding moving the township meetings to the PACE Hall in lieu of the current location of the town hall. It's been noted that only the town board has the power to choose the location of the monthly township meetings. The town electors do not have that power. The following comments were discussed: Will the current township insurance extend to the PACE Hall? What rent would consist of? Would the township sign a written lease? Chairman Ring will reach out to Jim Huffmann at the PACE Hall to discuss this opportunity in further detail and will report his findings to the town board at the April meeting.

2021 Local Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting – The purpose of this meeting is to allow the township residents to address their property value with the County Assessor. This is for the 2021 Market Value on their property for which taxes would be payable in 2022. The County Assessor would then work with the property owner directly to substantiate the reasoning behind the possible in-correct property value and see what corrections can or will need to be made. Clerk Ladzun will post notice of this meeting in the official township newspaper as well as the three township posting locations.

### **Old Business**

Previous Clerk's desk has been declared as excess township property.

Motion was made by Felty to remove desk from the town hall. Seconded by Ring. Motion carried.

Supervisor Felty to replace all locks at the town hall.

After further investigation, rented storage for township files is no longer needed. Discussion was made regarding older township documents and how to preserve them. It was further noted that the township will need to abide by the Minnesota Historical Society Retention Schedule for township records.

CTAS Adoption – There is a training session coming up on March 30, 2021 that Nick would like to attend. The Clerk from the City of Coates has also offered her help to the township. Both of these opportunities would be beneficial to the Treasurer and Clerk. Chairman Ring agreed that a hands-on work session with another township that uses the CTAS program would be acceptable training.

### **Other topics**

Kenny Kasel questioned why we are paying an Engineer for the Napper Project. It was explained that the septic system on the Napper property is not running correctly so the septic is having to be pumped out on regular basis so people can continue to live there. Jim Sathra then inquired why the township is involved.

Dan Fluegel explained that he/Napper is applying for a septic permit that the township has to approve. The township does not have a septic inspector so they have to hire one and that is where the Engineer comes into play. The township requests that Napper have an escrow account with the township at a rate of 1.5 or 150% of whatever charges may be billed from the Engineer. This would then leave a cushion for the township as to not be stuck paying the bill from the Engineer as this is Napper's responsibility. Nick will reach out to the Engineer to see if additional charges will come in to play in 2021.

The process for requesting a new address from Dakota County for a home located within the township will be the responsibility of the Clerk.

Jim Sathra inquired on who pays for the green signs listing the house number for the fire department. Treasurer Rueger to check on this.

At 10:00 pm Supervisor Felty made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Lohmann seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

Cynthia Ladzun  
Vermillion Township Clerk